Present system of grant for fertilizers

†3418 SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only big farmers are getting the benefit of the present fertilizers grant and small farmers are comparatively deprived of its benefits;

(b) whether it is also a fact that basically fertilizers manufacturers are getting the benefits of the existing system of grant for fertilizers;

(c) whether Twelfth Finance Commission has recommended for change in this procedure; and

(d) if so, the steps Government is considering to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The present fertilizer subsidy is distributed to the farmers in the form of notified Maximum Retail Prices of subsidized fertilizers which are much below the actual delivered cost of these fertilizers at farm gate level. The benefit of the present fertilizer subsidy accrues more to farmer who use large amounts of fertilizers as compared to farmers who use smaller amount of fertilizers. However, the subsidy per tonne is uniformly available to all farmers who use subsidized fertilizers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Twelfth Finance Commission has indicated a need to develop an alternative instrument for release of fertilizer subsidy. A Group of Minister (GoM) was constituted to look into the sustainable use of fertilizers and pertinent subsidy and pricing issues. However, GoM has not recommended by change in existing pattern of subsidy.

NPPA to share the experience of other countries on drug price control

†3419. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has decided to take benefit of the experience of other countries in the price control of medicines in the country;

(b) if so, the names of officials belonging to the said authority who have gone on foreign tours for the said purpose alongwith the names of the countries, they have visited;

(c) whether these officers have prepared any concrete proposal; and

(d) if so, the outlines of proposals prepared concerning to each country visited by these Indian officials, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) National Pharmaceutical Pricing

† Original nonce of the question was received in Hindi